



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**For Immediate Release**

March 3, 2004

**ORLANDO MAN SENTENCED  
TO 18 MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT FOR MAIL FRAUD**

ORLANDO - United States District Judge Anne C. Conway today sentenced Edward Carlo, age 66, of Orlando, Florida, to 18 months' imprisonment and ordered him to pay restitution of \$226,542.86 to six motor clubs that were the victims of his mail fraud scheme. The sentence also calls for Carlo to serve a three-year period of supervised release and pay a \$100 special assessment.

Carlo pled guilty on December 4, 2003 to one count charging him with mail fraud. According to the facts adopted by the Court at sentencing, Carlo developed a scheme to defraud motor clubs through the submission of false invoices for towing services. A motor club is an organization that reimburses its members for towing expenses incurred for roadside assistance. Typically, a motor club allows its members to call for assistance themselves and then to submit a receipt from the towing company for reimbursement.

To execute his scheme, Carlo opened forty-six (46) post office boxes in his name as well as the names of 162 fictitious individuals. Carlo applied for memberships in motor clubs in all of those names. After those memberships were accepted, Carlo submitted

claims to the motor clubs for towing services that had not been provided. From January 20, 1995 through July 15, 2003, Carlo submitted 1,242 fraudulent claims for reimbursement and received \$226,542.86 from six motor clubs.

This case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Roger B. Handberg.

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